

**Operational Summary  
Omaha District Tributary Reservoirs  
August 10, 2001**

**Water Control and Water Quality Section  
Hydrologic Engineering Branch**

**Executive Summary**

- New Activities This Week: There are no new activities to report.
- Pool Levels Above Flood Control Level: None of the Corps of Engineers or Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs have a significant amount of occupied flood control storage.
- Storage or Release Concerns: Despite reduced releases at Pipestem and Jamestown Dams over the last few weeks the City of Jamestown is still having problems with their sanitary sewer system near the confluence of the James River and the Pipestem Creek. The high water table in this neighborhood is apparently a result of the high releases and above average rainfall in July. This has resulted in infiltration into the sewer collection system and problems with sewage backing up in people's basements.
- Flooding Concerns: Flows on the James River in North and South Dakota near the state line have diminished to approximately 1000 cfs. The stage at Columbia has just dropped below the NWS flood stage while the stage at Stratford remains 2.5 feet above flood stage. The biggest impact from the high stages on the James River in this area is to impede interior drainage of farmland that was flooded from snowmelt last spring. As reduced releases reach this area in a few weeks lower stages on the river should allow adjacent farmland to drain.
- Drought Concerns: Water Control activities related to drought on tributary reservoirs are expected to be minor in the Omaha District.

**Detailed Summary**

- Jamestown/Pipestem: See the attached James River Bulletin for details on releases. The Pipestem Dam release has been gradually dropping to a current 330 cfs and the Jamestown Dam release was increased on Monday, August 6 from 275 cfs to 400 cfs for a combined release of 730 cfs. Releases at Jamestown Reservoir will be adjusted periodically targeting a pool elevation of 1431 ft, msl and are expected to remain fairly constant with possible fluctuations of +/- 100 cfs. The Pipestem Dam release will continue to drop off over the next week as the pool level nears the base of flood pool. Eventually releases at Pipestem Dam will nearly match inflow which is currently around 150 to 200 cfs.

- Tri-Lakes Area: Cherry Creek and Bear Creek Reservoir are slightly above and Chatfield Reservoir is 5 feet below their respective top of conservation pools.
- Papio/Salt Creek Projects: Reservoir levels are normal to below normal, with no significant flooding issues.
- Western South Dakota (Cold Brook, Cottonwood): No significant issues.
- Montana/Wyoming/North Dakota and South Dakota Bureau Projects: Most projects are generally far below normal. Since projects are not in flood control zone, the Corps is not regulating releases and the Bureau is handling all issues relative to the releases.